

**From:** Matthew McCrady  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/18/02 3:04pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

As a long-time Macintosh proponent, I have for a long time felt the sting of Microsoft's monopoly in the OS market. Every time I go into Wal-Mart and find not a single application available for my Macs, I think about the way in which Microsoft has undermined competition in all areas of the computer software industry.

That's why I feel that the proposed settlement with Microsoft Corporation is a terrible penalty for a company so ruthless as Microsoft. Allowing Microsoft to get off the hook by buying refurbished computers and software for under funded school systems is like punishing a serial child molester by sentencing him to community service in a day-care center. That comparison may be a bit crude, but nonetheless, the proposed settlement would simply allow Microsoft to gain a stronger foothold in the one market in which it has traditionally not been dominant. No wonder Apple opposes the settlement so heartily. It would effectively destroy Apple's base and lay to rest any notion that there is real competition in the computer software industry.

I hope the government thinks again before it settles with Microsoft for such a paltry and Pyrrhic victory.

Matt McCrady

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"And no more turn aside and brood  
Upon love's bitter mystery."

"Who Goes With Fergus?"  
William Butler Yeats

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